

Kākāpō Syndicate

Term One, 2019



Welcome back and a special welcome to students and families who are new to Kākāpō or Ngaio School. Our year has begun smoothly and classes have settled into their learning programmes quickly. Thank you for having your children ready with stationery on the first day back.

Our Team

We have six teachers in Kākāpō syndicate. Please feel free to contact your child's class teacher at any point during the year.

Year 3

Sarah Simpson Room 10 (Team Leader)
Caroline Dinniss Room 10 (Thursday/Friday)
Christina Johnstone Room 12
Tessa Willis Room 9

Year 4

Liz Blackwell Room 6
Lucy Unsworth Room 6
Daniel Byrne Room 5

Meet the Teacher Evening

Parents are welcome to attend our Meet the Teacher Picnic on Tuesday 12 February. Families are invited to hear an overview of how their child's class will run in 2019. There are two presentation times for you to choose from. The first from 5.45 - 6.10pm and the second will run from 6.15 - 6.45pm. **You are welcome to eat a picnic tea on our school field from 4.45pm.** The presentations will include information about the STRIVE optional homework programme. If the weather is wet the evening will go ahead without the picnic. The evening will conclude at 7pm.

Cummings Park Library

Classes will be visiting Cummings Park library again in term one. If you are able to attend please contact your child's teacher.

Room 5, March 15, 10am

Room 6, February 15, 2pm

Room 9, March 22, 10am

Room 10, March 29, 10am

Room 12, February 22, 10am

Goal Setting Meetings

Goal setting meetings will be held on 20 and 21 March with every family. This will provide you with the opportunity to discuss your child's learning with their teacher. Our school office will send out more information closer to the time.

Swimming and Gymnastics

This term children will receive a weekly 30 minute swimming lesson and a 30 minute gymnastics session with Easyswim. These will occur on the same day for each class. Children will need togs, goggles and a towel as well as comfortable clothing and a hat for the outdoor gymnastics sessions. These sessions will start in Week 2 of the term.

Room 5 Friday

Room 6 Monday

Room 9 Tuesday

Room 10 Tuesday

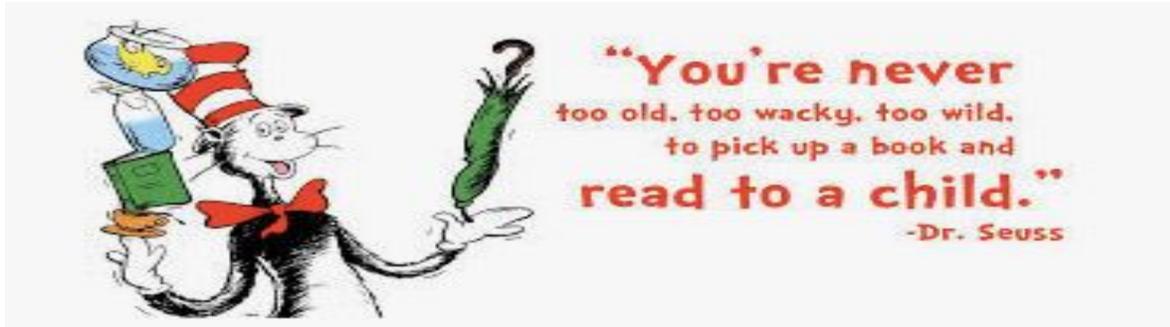
Room 12 Thursday

Literacy

When children first start school they begin the process of *learning how to read*. For most children, as they enter years 3 and 4 learning how to read becomes less about the mechanics of decoding texts and more about *reading to learn*. As children become fluent readers the best way to support this at home is to encourage your child to read for pleasure. Teachers are able to support this by recommending books to children at school as part of the class reading programme.

Some children will be given nightly or weekly readers that they have read with their teacher as part of a guided reading lesson. Reading to your child is still highly recommended and is a fantastic way to build listening comprehension. When reading with or to your child at home spend most of the time simply enjoying the text. Take time to discuss the meaning of new words your child hears or reads. Building a child's vocabulary lifts their reading and writing.

Like adults children will often have favourite books and re-reading these helps to develop a love of reading.



Numeracy

Numbers are all around us and are fun to play with. Prototec: <https://maths.prototec.co.nz/> is an excellent website to build a child's recall of basic facts. You can support your child's numeracy without them even knowing by:

- playing board games
- comparing prices in the supermarket
- measuring ingredients when cooking
- posing everyday maths questions
- discussing the speed of the car
- estimating or reading the time

In term one, classes will have a primary focus on addition and subtraction. We will also be learning about statistics (collecting data, graphing data, comparing data, analysing data). At home consider reading sports results and scoreboards. Children love reading the statistics of sports heroes e.g. cricket statistics or netball shooting percentages...

Science Focus

As New Zealand moves to reduce plastic and waste we thought it would be timely to learn more about this. *Where does the rubbish go? What does recycling mean?* Kākāpō will investigate these types of questions as *Eco Warriors*. If you are able to help with this topic please contact your child's class teacher.

To support our learning classes will travel on a bus to the Southern Landfill for a guided tour. Each trip departs Ngaio School at 9.15am and we will return at 11.30am for a late morning tea. Please note that Rooms 5, 6 and 10 have been split so that half the class will go on one day and half another. Parents of children in the classes being split will be notified which day their child is attending the Southern Landfill trip. If you are able to attend as a parent helper please contact your child's class teacher.

Monday 25 February. 10 - 11am (36 children) 5 adults (Half R10 and R9)

Tuesday 26 February. 10 - 11am (38 children) 5 adults (Half R5 and Liz R6)

Wednesday 27 February. 10 - 11am (36 children) 5 adults (Half R10 and R 12)

Thursday 28 February. 10 - 11am (37 children) 5 adults (Half R5 and Lucy R6)

Open Afternoon Invitation

On Tuesday 9 April classes will be open from 2.30 - 3.30pm to come and have a look at the learning we have been doing as part of our Eco Warrior unit. We look forward to seeing you there.

Te Reo

We are fortunate to have the expertise of Matua Alwyn to support our te reo Māori programmes. Alwyn will kickstart the year with children learning their mihimihi. Within our class programmes basic commands, days of the week and numbers will be embedded e.g. “haere mai kei te whariki” come down to the mat.

Seesaw

Seesaw is a fabulous way for parents to view what children are learning and participating in at school. Both teachers and children are able to post to Seesaw accounts. Parents are encouraged to ‘like’ or ‘comment’ on posts. If you are not connected to your child’s seesaw please contact your child’s class teacher.

STRIVE

Each child in Kākāpō receives a STRIVE booklet of activities that they can choose to do at home. STRIVE stands for: Start out, Think, Relate, Investigate, Value and Excel. Although optional STRIVE is designed so that home learning tags onto what a child is already doing outside of school. Children select from a range of activities to complete at home e.g. cooking dinner for your family, creating a board game, playing a sport for a season, creating a puppet... Once an activity has been completed children provide evidence to share with their teacher by writing a story about it, a poster, google slide or short presentation to the class. In Year 3 children who complete six activities or seven activities in Year 4 receive a special certificate at an end of year STRIVE assembly. The assembly is full of dance, drama and music.

The STRIVE booklets will be further explained to children and handed out in the next few weeks. Teachers will be sharing more information about STRIVE at the Meet the Teacher Picnic.

School Communication

The school newsletter is emailed home to families. Paper copies can be requested from the office. Our school website and Facebook page are updated regularly with photographs, children’s work and reminders. All students across Ngaio have a Seesaw account as a way of sharing their learning. If you require support accessing your child’s seesaw account please contact your child’s teacher.

If you have a query please contact your child’s class teacher. They are best equipped to answer your questions directly or refer you to the right person. Sarah Simpson is the team leader of Kākāpō.

Absences

If children are going to be late or away from school please email absences@ngaio.school.nz and copy in your child's teacher to that email. The email should contain your child's name, room number, reason and period for absence or lateness. Please also remember to sign out your child at the office if they leave the school grounds between 9-3pm and to sign in if they arrive between these times.

Messages

If you need to contact your child with an urgent message please notify the office to ensure the message is received rather than the class teacher.

Hats

Hats are to be worn outside during terms one and four. Please ensure your child has a named brimmed hat. Each classroom has sunscreen the children can use.

The Kākāpō Team

Sarah Simpson, Christina Johnstone, Tessa Willis, Lucy Unsworth, Liz Blackwell and Dan Byrne

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